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*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
•Practice limited to
Federal Agencies

February 27, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1645

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 10/622,124; Filed: July 18, 2003
For: **Ghrelin-Carrier Conjugates**
Inventors: BACHMANN *et al.*
Our Ref: 1700.0340001/BJD/SJE

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449 (3 sheets citing 12 documents);
3. 11 documents cited in Form PTO-1449 (attached); and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

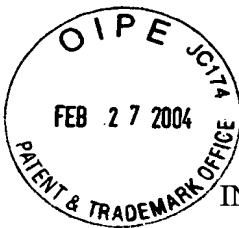
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Brian J. Del Buono
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

BJD/SJE/lam
Enclosures

234699.1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

BACHMANN *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/622,124

Filed: July 18, 2003

For: **Ghrelin-Carrier Conjugates**

Confirmation No.: 3313

Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: *To be assigned*

Atty. Docket: 1700.0340001/BJD/SJE

Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The numbering on this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is a continuation of the numbering in Applicants' Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on January 15, 2004 in connection with the above-captioned application.

A copy of document **AG3** is not provided in accordance with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office pre-OG notice of July 11, 2003, which states "[t]he Office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003."

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may

not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

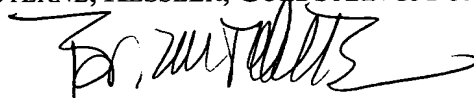
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

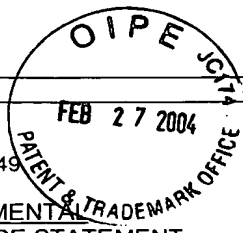
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

Date: February 27, 2004

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Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600



FORM PTO-1449

FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTATTY. DOCKET NO.
1700.0340001/BJD/SJEAPPLICATION NO.
10/622,124FIRST NAMED INVENTOR
Martin F. BachmannFILING DATE
July 18, 2003ART UNIT
1645

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG3	2001/0038862 A1	11/08/2001	Luo <i>et al.</i>			12/14/2000
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL						Yes No
	AM						Yes No
	AN8	WO 03/051389 A2	07/26/2003	WIPO			Yes No
	AO8	WO 03/031466 A2 WO 03/031466 A3	04/17/2003	WIPO			Yes No
	AP						Yes No

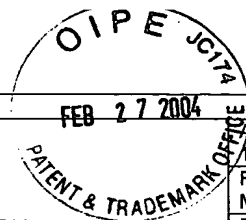
OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR	<u>145</u>	
	AS	<u>145</u>	International Search Report for International Application No. PCT/EP03/07849, mailed January 23, 2004, International Search Authority, European Patent Office, The Netherlands.
	AT	<u>145</u>	Lechner, F., <i>et al.</i> , "Virus-like particles as a modular system for novel vaccines," <i>Intervirology</i> 45:212-217, S. Karger AG, Basel (July-December 2002).

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.



FORM PTO-1449 FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT		Page 2 of 3 ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1700.0340001/BJD/SJE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Martin F. Bachmann FILING DATE July 18, 2003	APPLICATION NO. 10/622,124 ART UNIT 1645
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL9	WO 03/024481 A2	03/27/2003	WIPO			Yes No
	AM9	WO 03/039225 A2	5/15/2003	WIPO			Yes No
	AN9	EP 1 197 496 A1	04/17/2002	Europe			Yes No
	AO						Yes No
	AP						Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)			
AR	<u>146</u>	Murakami, N., et al., "Role for central ghrelin in food intake and secretion profile of stomach ghrelin in rats," <i>Journal of Endocrinology</i> 174:283-288, Society for Endocrinology, Great Britain (August 2002).	
AS	<u>146</u>	Bednarek, M.A., et al., "Structure-Function Studies on the New Growth Hormone-Releasing Peptide, Ghrelin: Minimal Sequence of Ghrelin Necessary for Activation of Growth Hormone Secretagogue Receptor 1a," <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> 43:4370-4376, American Chemical Society, USA (2000).	
AT	<u>146</u>	Hinney, Anke, et al., "Ghrelin gene: Identification of missense variants and a frameshift mutation in extremely obese children and adolescents and healthy normal weight students," <i>The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism</i> 87(6):2716-2719, The Endocrine Society, USA (June 2002).	

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FORM PTO-1449 FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT		Page 3 of 3	
		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1700.0340001/BJD/SJE	
		APPLICATION NO. 10/622,124	
		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Martin F. Bachmann	
FILING DATE July 18, 2003		ART UNIT 1645	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL						Yes No
	AM						Yes No
	AN						Yes No
	AO						Yes No
	AP						Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)			
	AR	<u>147</u>	Hosoda, H., <i>et al.</i> , "Purification and Characterization of Rat des-Gln ¹⁴ - Ghrelin, a Second Endogenous Ligand for the Growth Hormone Secretagogue Receptor," <i>The Journal of Biological Chemistry</i> 275:21995-22000, The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Inc. (2000)
	AS	<u>147</u>	
	AT	<u>147</u>	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.	